

Definitions compiled from various sources. Etymological information from Etymonline (<http://www.etymonline.com>).

Vocabulary Word (Context & Definition)	Synonyms	Antonyms	Etymology (inc. stems & affixes)	Related Words/Forms (to see the etymology of the related words, go to Etymonline)
<p>apparatus (n.) a system of functions or processes directed toward a specific goal</p> <p>“A Jewish council was appointed, as well as a Jewish police force, a welfare agency, a labor committee, a health agency—a whole governmental apparatus.” (12)</p>		n/a	Latin <i>ad-</i> “to” + <i>parare</i> “to make ready”	<p>Related to stem <i>parare</i>:</p> <p>-prepare -separate -compare</p>
<p>conflagration (n.) a large destructive fire</p> <p>“No one was praying for the night to pass quickly. The stars were but sparks of the immense conflagration that was consuming us.” (21)</p>			Latin <i>com-</i> (intensive prefix) + <i>flagrare</i> “to burn”	<p>Related to stem <i>flagrare</i>:</p> <p>-flagrant</p>
<p>decree (n.) a formal, authoritative order having the force of law; (v.) to command</p> <p>“Three days later, a new decree: every Jew had to wear the yellow star.” (11)</p>		n/a	Latin <i>decernere</i> “to decide,” from <i>de-</i> “from” + <i>cernere</i> “to separate”	<p>Related to stem <i>cernere</i>:</p> <p>-secret -concern -certain</p>
<p>edict (n.) a proclamation issued by a sovereign or other authority</p> <p>“First edict: Jews were prohibited from leaving their residences for three days, under penalty of death.” (10)</p>		n/a	Latin <i>edictum</i> “proclamation,” from <i>ex-</i> “out” + <i>dicere</i> “to say”	<p>Related to stem <i>dicere</i>:</p> <p>-diction, dictionary -dictate -indicate -predict -benediction</p>
<p>farce (n.) mockery; joke</p> <p>“ ‘As far as I’m concerned, this whole business of deportation is nothing but a big farce. Don’t laugh. They just want to steal our valuables and jewelry.’ ” (21)</p>			<p>Latin <i>farcire</i> “to stuff, cram”</p> <p>(A farce is typically a comical play “stuffed” with jokes.)</p>	farcical (adj.)

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<p>hermetic (adj.) isolated or protected (from outside influence)</p> <p>“The doors were nailed, the way back irrevocably cut off. The world had become a hermetically sealed cattle car.” (24)</p>			<p>Greek <i>Hermes</i> (god of science and art, supposedly invented process of making a glass tube airtight using a secret seal)</p>	<p>Related to <i>Hermes</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-hermaphrodite</li> <li>-proper name Hermione</li> </ul> <p>*NOT related to “hermit”</p>
<p>insinuate (v.) to suggest or hint at slyly (through allusion or innuendo)</p> <p>“But people not only refused to believe his tales, they refused to listen. Some even insinuated that he only wanted their pity, that he was imagining things. Others flatly said he had gone mad.” (7)</p>			<p>Latin <i>in-</i> “in” + <i>sinuare</i> “to wind, curve, bend”</p>	<p>Related to <i>sinuare</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-sinus</li> </ul>
<p>irrevocable (adj.) unalterable</p> <p>“The doors were nailed, the way back irrevocably cut off. The world had become a hermetically sealed cattle car.” (24)</p>			<p>Latin <i>in-</i> “not, opposite of” + <i>re-</i> “back, again” + <i>vocare</i> “to call”</p>	<p>Related to <i>vocare</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-voice, vocal</li> <li>-vocabulary!! ☺</li> <li>-provoke, evoke, revoke, invoke</li> <li>-advocate</li> </ul>
<p>penury (n.) extreme poverty</p> <p>“He was poor and lived in utter penury. As a rule, our townspeople, while they did help the needy, did not particularly like them.” (3)</p>			<p>Latin <i>penuria</i> “scarcity, need”</p>	
<p>pious (adj.) showing religious devotion; having dutiful reverence for God</p> <p>“Her husband was a pious man who spent most of his days and nights in the house of study. It was she who supported the family.” (24)</p>			<p>Latin <i>pius</i> “dutiful, devout, religious”</p>	<p>piousness (n.)</p> <p>Related to <i>pious</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-piety</li> </ul>

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<p>rescind (v.) to repeal; invalidate; withdraw</p> <p>“My father was running right and left...checking with the Jewish Council just in case the order had been rescinded.” (15)</p>			<p>Latin <i>re-</i> “back” + <i>scindere</i> “to cut, split”</p>	<p>Related to stem <i>scindere</i>: -scissors</p>
<p>sublime (adj.) supreme or outstanding; inspiring awe</p> <p>“The weather was sublime. My mother was busy in the kitchen. The synagogues were no longer open. People gathered in private homes: no need to provoke the Germans.” (10)</p>			<p>Latin <i>sub-</i> “up to” + <i>limen</i> “threshold”</p> <p>(Here, <i>sub-</i> means “up to” as from a place below.)</p>	<p>Related to stem <i>limen</i>: -limit -subliminal, sublimation -eliminate -preliminary</p>
<p>surreptitious (adj.) done in secret or by improper means</p> <p>“Some of the Jewish police surreptitiously went to fill a few jugs.” (16)</p>			<p>Latin <i>sub-</i> “from under” + <i>rapere</i> “to snatch”</p>	<p>Related to stem <i>rapere</i>: -rape -raptor -rapid -rapacious -rapture</p>
<p>treatise (n.) a formal written work on a particular subject that details its principles and conclusions</p> <p>“Children played games, rolling hazelnuts on the sidewalks. Some schoolmates and I were in Ezra Malik’s garden studying a Talmudic treatise.” (12)</p>		n/a	<p>Old French <i>traitier</i> “deal with, set forth in writing”</p> <p>Latin <i>tractare</i> “manage, handle, deal with” and <i>trahere</i> “to pull, draw”</p> <p>(See how the Spanish verb <i>traer</i> is related?)</p>	<p>Related to stem <i>traitier/tractare</i>: -treat -tract -contract -retraction</p>
<p>wield (v.) to handle effectively; to exercise (power, authority, influence)</p> <p>“At nine o’clock, the previous Sunday’s scenes were repeated. Policemen wielding clubs were shouting: ‘All Jews outside!’” (18)</p>			<p>Old English <i>weldan</i> “have power over, subdue”</p>	<p>unwieldy (adj.)</p>